
JANUARY 15, 1829.

Read twice, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

Mr. MERCER, from the Committee on Roads and Canals, to which the subject had been referred, reported the following bill :

A BILL

To amend the charter of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
3 the provisions of an act, which passed at the November
4 session of the General Assembly of the State of Maryland,
5 and is entitled "An act in favor of the President and Direc-
6 tors of the Potomac Company and the Commissioners of the
7 Federal Buildings, be taken and adjudged to be extended to
8 the President and Directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio
9 Canal Company, and to the agents and contractors engaged
10 on any part of the works of the said Company within the
11 District of Columbia.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That so much of the*
2 act, entitled "An act authorizing a subscription to the stock
3 of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company," as provides
4 that not more than one-fifth part of the sum so subscribed
5 shall be demanded in any one year after the organization of

6 the company, shall be, and the same is hereby, repealed, so as
 7 to leave the subscription by the United States on the same
 8 footing, in this respect, upon which that of all other stock-
 9 holders of the said company is now placed by the charter
 10 thereof.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the Chesapeake
 2 and Ohio Canal Company shall have power to obtain, in the
 3 manner provided by the thirteenth section of the act of the
 4 General Assembly of Virginia, passed January twenty-
 5 ninth, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, en-
 6 titled "An act incorporating the Chesapeake and Ohio
 7 Canal Company," to which, so far as respects the District of
 8 Columbia, the assent of Congress has hitherto been given,
 9 the said act being the basis of the charter of the said compa-
 10 ny, such portion of ground between the line of the said ca-
 11 nal and the river Potomac, within the District of Columbia,
 12 as may be necessary to enable the company, by their Presi-
 13 dent and Directors, to sell or let, for manufacturing or other
 14 purposes, the surplus water of the said canal, with proper
 15 sites for the use thereof; which surplus water the said compa-
 16 ny may enlarge at their pleasure, by means of the authority
 17 now vested in them.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the said Company
 2 may in like manner obtain any ground covered with water, or
 3 otherwise circumstanced, which they may need for the form-

4 ation of basins or moles; and, in consideration of their
 5 giving greater strength to the latter, may afterwards let, for
 6 wharves, or other useful buildings, such lots as they may re-
 7 tain or improve on any such routes on the margin of any
 8 such basins. And, wherever the interests of the said Com-
 9 pany may, in the opinion of the President and Directors
 10 aforesaid, be thereby promoted, they may purchase and hold,
 11 sell, or let the whole of any lot or tract of land through which
 12 the said canal may be conducted.

1 SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That, for the greater
 2 security and comfort of travelling, as well as to obviate any
 3 obstruction to the use of steam boats, or other boats having
 4 masts therein, the said company shall have liberty to insti-
 5 tute, at the company's expense, on all public roads crossing
 6 the said canal, ferries, in lieu of bridges, over the same; and to
 7 make such bargain with the private holders of such tracts of
 8 lands as may be divided by the said canal, and not acquired
 9 by the first section of this act, for the substitution of an ade-
 10 quate consideration for the use of a ferry or bridge across the
 11 canal; and, in case the proprietor and the company shall not
 12 be able to agree upon a reasonable consideration for the
 13 damages which such proprietor might sustain for want of
 14 such bridge or ferry, the same proceedings may be had for the
 15 assessment and payment of such damage as are provided by
 16 the thirteenth section of the aforesaid act of the General As-
 17 sembly of Virginia.

Mr. MERCER, from the Committee on Roads and Canals, submitted the following as

AMENDMENTS

To the "*bill to amend the charter of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, and for other purposes.*"

NOTE.—The parts proposed to be stricken out are printed in brackets—those to be inserted are printed in italics.

1 Strike out of the 3d section of the bill all that follows the
2 words "to obtain," to the words "charter of the said company,"
3 and insert "by purchase, or agreement with the proprietor."

4 Add to the 4th section the following proviso: *Provided,*
5 That they shall not make any purchase of any proprietor ex-
6 ceeding in quantity one hundred acres.

7 Strike out the word "first" before the word "section," in the
8 5th section of the bill, and insert the word "third;" and strike
9 from the said section all that follows the words, "across the
10 canal."